



September 2006 Issue



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### Dear District 10 Residents and Friends,

As Fall rushes to greet us, so too does a new school year for our children in District 10. Last month I was lucky enough to have an opportunity to experience first-hand the excitement and anticipation of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school at Los Alamitos Elementary School where I was able to visit with the parents, teachers and students. I also donned crossing guard gear and took to the street in order to recognize the importance of the SJPD's crossing guard program, the safety of our children, and the need to decrease the number of speeders in and around our schools.

Throughout the hour that I spent as a crossing guard, I came to realize just how hard these individuals work to protect our children. It is critical that they have a "360-degree Awareness" in order to ensure that everyone can cross safely while also being mindful of the many parents who are driving by to drop off their students. In a similar manner, in my role as your representative, I must have an awareness of the safety concerns across District 10. Just a few months ago, I worked with neighbors in the VEP Community Association area and staff from the Department of Transportation to improve the safety conditions around Gunderson High School. My office will continue to work with administrators at Gunderson, the leadership within VEP, and our City Staff to monitor how these beneficial changes have made an impact on the safety of students in this neighborhood as well.

Earlier this year in the midst of the City Budget Sessions, the City Council was faced with potential budget cuts to the school crossing guard program. I'm proud to say that I aggressively opposed these cuts and spearheaded efforts, along with Vice Mayor Cindy Chavez, to preserve as much funding as possible for this program which is so critical to our children's safety. As a City Councilmember two of my deepest ongoing commitments have been to community safety and to the education & safety of our District's children.

However, my work in this area is far from over. The crossing guard program still needs additional funding, but I am pleased to announce that effective immediately, the School Safety sergeant and two remaining coordinators will process any existing applications for new crossing guards. These guards will go through a detailed hiring process and staff should be restored at four temporarily closed intersection locations within the next two months. Please visit the main page of the District 10 website at [www.sanjoseca.gov/district10/](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district10/) to learn more. As always, I am committed to making our community as safe as possible for all my friends and neighbors in District 10.

*Best wishes,*

**Nancy Pyle**  
**Councilmember, District Ten**



**Nancy joins student Safety Patrol officers while serving as a crossing guard on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school at Los Alamitos Elementary School in District 10.**

## Legislative Update

### Recycle Plus

On Tuesday, August 22, the City Council voted to reject City Staff's recommendation for a 2-year agreement with NORCAL and entered into negotiations with Garden City Sanitation and California Waste Solution (CWS), which will ensure single-family garbage and recycling services starting July 2007. City staff will report back to the City Council on September 12<sup>th</sup> regarding the mobilization / transition plan. On August 22, my colleagues and I also approved:

- Strict Performance Measures
- Fair costs to taxpayers, guarding against any potential rate increases over the life of the contract.
- Service enhancements over the life of the contract, including increased programs for the disposal of bulky goods and appliances, increased street sweeping and ensuring that recyclables are not contaminated by waste.

### San Jose Prepared! Update

San Jose Prepared! is a community-based emergency response-training that began in 1995 as a pilot program in a single Council District. The program has since expanded into all 10 Council Districts, trained 3,100 residents, and now receives its funding from the City's regular operating budget. As Vice Chair of the Emergency Preparedness Council I urge all District 10 residents to sign-up for training to better serve your family and neighbors in the case of an emergency. For more information please visit

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/emergencyServices/SanJosePrepared/>.

### Consolidated Utility Billing System

The Consolidated Utility Billing System (C-UBS) is a new state-of-the-art system that was created to bring greater efficiency to the way the City serves its residents. In the new system, residents will only receive one bill for both their Recycle Plus and Municipal Water System services. C-UBS went live in July and encountered problems which have since been resolved. To check your account visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/customerservice>. If you have any questions please call the Call Center at 408-535-3500.

### Trail Program's Updated Website

Since taking office in 2005, a number of my colleagues and I have been working hard to complete the trail system. I have also been working on ways to improve the trails District 10 residents have come to love.

I am pleased to report that the Trail Program's website has been significantly updated to better serve the community. To view these updates, please visit <http://www.sjpark.org/Trails/trailsindex.asp>. For questions regarding trail management, development, and promotion contact Yves Zsutty, via phone at 408-793-5561 or email at [yves.zsutty@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:yves.zsutty@sanjoseca.gov).

### Commission Vacancies

Currently the City has a number of vacancies on City Commissions. These commissions advise the City Council on policy matters from Housing to Small Business. For more information please visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/Vacancy.asp>.

### Operation Identification - Protect Your Valuables!

On July 25, the Police Department held a press conference to announce the re-start of Operation Identification (ID), a program that loans electric engravers to citizens to engrave their license number on their property to help deter theft and facilitate property recovery. Engravers will be available for check-out at all San Jose Library branches.

## Tales of the Almaden Valley by Guest Columnist Art Boudreault

*This is the first of several articles about Almaden Valley. If there is any specific place or event you wish to read about, please contact the District 10 office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov)*

### The Graystone Quarry at Pfeiffer Ranch Road and Greystone Lane

In 1867 for \$181, Nathaniel Skuse purchased 136 acres, which would eventually become the Graystone Quarry. That same year, Levi Goodrich leased the land from Skuse, began quarrying stone and called it the Goodrich Quarry. The lovely golden sandstone from the quarry was used throughout the area, including the Salinas Courthouse, the Masonic Temple and the Hall of Records in Oakland, the Lick Baths, the San Jose Normal School (now San Jose State University), St. Mary's Church and the original | Post Office (now the San Jose Art Museum) all in San Jose and the U.S. Mint building in Carson City, Nevada. According to Pfeiffer Family history, Levi Goodrich designed many of the buildings at Stanford University.



Nathaniel Skuse, formerly a teamster at the New Almaden Quicksilver Mine, devoted the rest of his life to hay and grain farming, increasing his land holdings to 450 acres until he died in 1878. His estate was divided into three. In 1879, one of Goodrich's employees, Jacob Pfeiffer leased the quarry and renamed it the Graystone Quarry. Nathaniel Skuse's daughter Anna married John Pfeiffer, Jacob's son and lived at the Graystone Station. The Quarry closed in 1905.





## District 10 Announcements & Highlights

- **Councilmember Nancy Pyle is pleased to welcome San Jose local Stephanie Holm to her staff, joining the District 10 team as our new Community Relations/ Policy Aide.** Stephanie has strong roots in District 10, having graduated from Leland High School in Almaden Valley. After high school, Stephanie earned a bachelor's degree in Criminology, Law and Society from UC Irvine. Stephanie will be focusing on policy issues & committees including Public Safety; Code (including Neighborhood Cleanups); Juvenile Justice; Civil Service; and the Emergency Preparedness Council.
- **Former Community Relations Coordinator Daniella Polar** departed from the District 10 office in early August to attend her first year of law school in Michigan, she wishes everyone in District 10 the very best and has enjoyed getting to know so many of the residents in Almaden & Blossom Valley.
- **As of July 13, 2006, San Jose Libraries** now allow users to place online requests for all non-fiction films in DVD, VCD & VHS formats. Checkouts are for 3 weeks and up to 3 renewals are permitted.
- **New Technology at the Vineland Branch Library** – As part of a CA State Library grant, the City has installed an automated library materials return and sorting system at the Vineland Branch that will allow for books to be automatically checked in and sorted. This new technology, the first of its kind in the country, will help reduce backlogs, speed up the process to return materials to the shelves, and allow staff to focus more on direct customer service.
- **Through the Sidewalk Accessibility Curb Ramp program,** District 10 will be receiving new curb ramps which will allow safer and easier pedestrian access to sidewalks, particularly for persons with disabilities. These ramps, which comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, will be installed at locations in District 10 including (for a complete list, contact DOT at (408) 277-4373) :
  - **Mesa Dr. @ Almaden Expwy.**
  - **Carlsbad Dr. @ Via Monte Dr.**
  - **Vistapark Dr. @ Victoria Park Dr.**
  - **Windsor Park Dr. @ Cypress Park Ct.**
  - **Paso Los Cerritos @ Calle Bonita**
  - **Via Valiente @ Maiden Ln.**



Councilmember Pyle stands with SJPD Sgt. James Roach, school safety supervisor Anita Caramella, Lt. James Aguirre & Lt. Rich Saito in front of Los Alamitos Elementary School.

## Contact Us

### Office of Councilmember Nancy Pyle Councilmember, District Ten

**408-535-4910**

**408-292-6478 - fax**

**[district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov)**

## District 10 Staff

[Leland C. Wilcox](#)

Chief of Staff

[Linda Alexander](#)

Executive Assistant

[Eric T. Crane](#)

Communications Aide

[Stephanie Holm](#)

Community Relations/ Policy Aide

**Visit District 10's Website -  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/district10](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district10)**

## *The Almaden Valley Womens Club presents the* **30th Annual Almaden Valley Art & Wine Festival**

**Sunday, September 17, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** This is the third year the festival will be held at the **Almaden Lake Park**, near the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Coleman Avenue in San Jose's Almaden community. This free family oriented festival includes a variety of arts and crafts, premium wine and beer, entertainment on two stages, and a special children's area! All festival proceeds are donated back to the community as contributions to schools, charities, and scholarships for local students. For more information, please visit the festival website at [www.almadenartwinefestival.com](http://www.almadenartwinefestival.com)



## Neighborhood Center

### District 10's Youth Advisory Council

The Youth Commission of the City of San Jose is a commission that mirrors the City Council in structure. Each district has a Youth Commissioner that represents the voice of their youth and one citywide commissioner. Each commissioner, with the help of their Youth Advisory Council (YAC), focuses on youth issues and concerns within their district and advises City Council. Being a part of the YAC is a great way to get involved in your community and help represent all the youth in District 10. If you are interested in becoming a part of the District 10 YAC and live in or attend school in District 10, please email the District 10 Youth Commissioner at [pardis\\_khosravi@yahoo.com](mailto:pardis_khosravi@yahoo.com) or call (408) 277-2744.

### Mayor's High School Parent Summit

Come join us at the new **San Jose City Hall on Saturday, September 23, 2006**, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., for the Mayor's High School Parent Summit. The summit will offer informative workshops for parents to explore college and career opportunities for their future graduate. There will be an Education Resource Fair to peruse while talking with counselors and the Mayor about how to become even more engaged in high school education. We hope you will save the date on your calendar and join us in September for this exceptional event.

### City Council Meetings

The City Council convenes every Tuesday at 1:30 PM at **200 East Santa Clara Street**. On the first and third Tuesday of the month the Council meets at 7:00 PM for Public Hearings. Meetings can also be viewed on the web at [www.sanjoseca.gov](http://www.sanjoseca.gov) or on the City cable TV station, Channel 26/26A.



**Nancy & Los Alamitos Elementary School crossing guard Eddy Mitchell assist students and parents as they cross the street on their 1<sup>st</sup> day of school**

### Community Calendar

Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2006: 9:45 AM-11:00 AM  
**Almaden Senior Association Monthly Meeting**  
Almaden Community Center; 6445 Camden Ave.

Monday, Sept. 11, 2006: 7:00 PM-9:00 PM  
**Almaden Valley Community Association (AVCA) meeting**  
Almaden Community Center; 6445 Camden Ave.

Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2006: 6:30 PM-8:30 PM  
**Hoffman/Via Monte Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting**  
Almaden Hills United Methodist Church; 1200 Blossom Hill Road

Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2006: 7:30 PM-8:30 PM  
**Montevideo Homeowners Association Monthly Meeting**  
Corner of Coleman and Camden, in the clubhouse behind the pool

Thursday, Sept. 14, 2006: 7:00 PM-8:30 PM  
**Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association (STFNA) Monthly Meeting**  
Southside Community Center; 5585 Cottle Road

Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> **Almaden Art & Wine Festival**; Almaden Lake Park

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2006: 6:30 PM-8:30 PM  
**Hoffman/Via Monte Neighborhood Action Council (NAC) Monthly Meeting**  
Almaden Hills United Methodist Church; 1200 Blossom Hill Road

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2006: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
**Mayor's High School Parent Summit**  
San Jose City Hall; 200 East Santa Clara St.

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2006: 9:00 AM  
**Almaden Times Classic 10k Race**  
Leland High School; 6677 Camden Ave.

### City Service Corner

Have a question about parks in your neighborhood? Looking for the latest events that are being held at a community center near you during the Fall?

**Call Parks, Recreation, & Neighborhood Services at (408) 535-3570**